

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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This report contains information on Soviet troops and supply installations in the Volga Military District.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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Soviet Troops in the Volga MD

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<u>Town</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Installation</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Saratov (N51-34, E46-02).	1948 to November 1949.	Barracks installation of several brick buildings.	About six km north- west of the main railroad station, in the woods south of the large radio station.	Occupied by a tank unit. Ten to 20 tanks left the installation in April 1949, each towing an AT gun.	Wooden summer houses for generals were under construction west of the radio station.
	1945 to August 1949.	1. Barracks instal- lation of several, three-story, red brick buildings and tank garages.	On the northern perimeter of the city, on top of a wooded slope.	Occupied by a tank unit which was predominantly equipped with T-34 tanks mounting 76.2-mm guns. Tank driving practice was conducted almost daily.	
		2. Barracks instal- lation of several three-story, red brick buildings, each about 100 meters long, and a drill field.	On the northern perimeter of the city, southeast of the barracks installation of a tank unit.	Soldiers wearing ruby colored epaulets without any branch-of-service in- signia were seen at the installation. Troops were trained with mortars and 76.2-mm AT guns in the billeting area.	
		3. Barracks instal- lation of two three- story yellow brick buildings, surrounded by a board fence.	On the northern perimeter of the city, near the tank repair plant.	Troops were trained with heavy mortars in the bar- racks yard.	
		4. Barracks instal- lation of three old buildings, several sheds, and a yard, surrounded partly	On the north- northwestern peri- meter of the city, on the southwest side of the road	The installation was re- ferred to by local residents as the Artillery Barracks. It was occupied by an artillery unit whose personnel	

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| by a barbed-wire fence, and partly by a damaged board fence. | to Atkarsk (N51-50, E45-00). | were crossed-gun-barrel insignia. Artillery pieces and heavy mortars were seen in the sheds. | |
| 5. Barracks installation of two three-story, yellow brick buildings surrounded by a wire fence. | On the northwestern perimeter of the city, east of the intersection of the road and railroad line to Atkarsk. | Probably housed an officers' school, since numerous officers (mostly field officers) entered and left the installation. | |
| 6. Large five-story, white barracks building. | On a slope on the northwestern perimeter of the town, west of the main railroad station. | In July 1949, it was occupied by 300 to 400 young men wearing civilian clothes. They were trained without arms. | A former school building and PW hospital. |
| 7. Barracks installation of two brick buildings. | In the center of the city, several hundred meters east of the main railroad station. | Officer candidate school. Groups of well-disciplined soldiers carrying map-pouches were frequently seen marching out of the installation. | |
| 8. Barracks installation of two large old red brick buildings in a yard. | In the southern sector of the city, about one km southeast of the freight station. | Occupied by a tank unit whose personnel wore tank insignia on their epaulets. Numerous trucks, but no tanks, were parked in the barracks yard. | |
| 9. Barracks installation of three four-story, white brick buildings, and one apartment house. | In the southeastern sector of the city. | Occupied by an MVD office. Numerous MVD officers and PW were observed. They wore red-bordered epaulets with the number 418-K.1 | |

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10. Military billets of one three-story, white brick building.

East of the railroad station.

Occupied by a military school. Police students 18 to 20 years of age wearing blue uniforms with silver braid were repeatedly seen.

11. Military post drill field.

On a slope on the northwestern perimeter of the city.

On the drill field were trenches with field fortifications. Units and groups of officers were engaged in training at all times.

12. Barracks installation of five or six large white brick buildings with flat roofs.

West of the Yelshanka (N50-10, E45-24) Railroad Station, about ten km northwest of Saratov.

Occupied by units which, in 1948 and 1949, conducted field practices near the installation. They were equipped with T-34 tanks mounting long-barreled guns and heavy mortars.

1947 to July 1948.

Barracks installation of a large two-story building, a wooden ration supply shed, a clothing shed, a dispensary, a guard house, a small arms firing range, and two airstrips.

In the southern sector of the city, about one km southeast of the freight station.

Occupied by Inf Unit No 418, numbering 500 to 600 troops who wore red epaulets with the number 418. The unit was equipped with rifles, submachine guns and six or seven heavy Maxim machine guns. Some of the officers were mounted. Lieutenant Colonel Zaponik (fnu) was the supply officer.¹

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	Prior to October 1948.		Barracks installation of five two-story brick buildings, each about 80x20 meters.	Near the village of Rasboyshchina, 12 km northwest of the city.	Occupied by a tank unit of 500 to 800 troops. Soldiers were repeatedly seen training with about 20 T-34 tanks. Not less than 500 canvas-covered armored vehicles were parked at a nearby lot for two consecutive years.
Kologri-vovka (N51-44, E45-15).	Summer of 1949.		Troop training grounds.	A ravined plateau in the Atkarsk-Kologrivovka-Idolga (N51-42, E45-35) area.	The troop training ground was occupied by units of various branches of service the year round. Artillery troops were predominant. Several kolkhozy, operated by troops, were located at the troop training ground. A barracks installation of several large white buildings was located five to seven km west of Idolga.
Seliksa (N53-12, E45-18).	Prior to November 1948.		1. Old artillery range.	Northeast of Seliksa.	Until the fall of 1948, the artillery range was used for agriculture, but was allegedly to be used as an artillery range again.
			2. Military billets in a former PW camp, consisting of seven low wooden barracks.	Several hundred meters north of the Seliksa railroad station.	the camp was to be occupied by Soviet troops.

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Syzran
(N53-11,
E48-27).

December
1949.

1947 until
October
1948.

Barracks installation of a brick building about 100 meters long, and five or six large sheds; surrounded by a wire fence.

1. Barracks installation of two old multi-story brick buildings, each about 100 meters long, and several small garages. The installation was surrounded by a wire fence with watch-towers.

2. Barracks installation of six multi-story brick buildings, surrounded by two rows of barbed wire.

In the northeastern sector of the town, north of Freight Yard I.

In the eastern sector of the town, about 300 meters south of the MVD jail.

On the northern perimeter of the town, north of the main railroad station.

Occupied by a tank unit. 200 to 250 troops wearing tank insignia and several tanks and trucks were frequently observed leaving the installation. The troops were well disciplined.

Occupied by a tank officer school. Tank officer candidates were frequently seen at the installation.

The eastern barracks section quartered a tank unit, whose personnel wore black epaulets with tank insignia. While only a few tanks were seen in the billeting area, most of the tanks were obviously sheltered at the drill field northeast of the town. The western barracks section was occupied by air force soldiers wearing blue epaulets.

observed a camp occupied by a tank unit at the eastern exit of the town, in an angle formed by the road and the Syzran-Kuybyshev railroad line. Tanks were not observed.

observed several hundred tanks in an area surrounded by a board fence with watch-towers. The tanks were partly covered with canvas.

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Area of
Kazan
(N55-45,
E49-08).

Fall of
1947.

Troop training ground
with numerous low
wooden barracks build-
ings and some brick
buildings. A narrow-
gauge track ran from
there to the Kazan-
Yoshkar-Ola (N56-37,
E47-55) railroad
line.

In a wooded area
about 50 km north-
west of Kazan.

Gun and rifle fire was
heard from the troop
training ground through-
out the summer. The
barracks installation
there looked like a
large town in the woods.

about 40,000 troops had
been trained at the
troop training grounds
the year round during
World War II.

in addition to
engineer and air
force units, the
258th Inf Regt was
stationed in Kazan
in mid-1948.²

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Soviet Supply Installations in the Volga MD

<u>Town</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Installation</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Data on installation</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Seliksa	August to November 1949.	Tank spare parts depot of four wooden warehouses, each about 25x10x5 meters, numerous wooden sheds, and earth bunkers. The installation had a railroad spur with a loading ramp about 150 meters long; surrounded by a wire fence.	In a wooded area between the Penza (N53-10, E44-51) road and the railroad, about one km east of the Seliksa railroad station. The station is located six to eight km west-southwest of the town of Seliksa.	The depot was headed by a colonel and was occupied by a guard unit of 150 to 200 troops wearing black epaulets with tank insignia. From August to November 1949, a train load of 40 to 50 axles arrived at the ramp almost every other day. Motors, caterpillar tracks, and various large boxes were observed to be unloaded. After November 1949, shipments arrived at longer intervals. A fuel depot, whose tanks could not be seen, was located close to the depot. Among others, motor vehicles of the air force units from the airfield (N53-16, E45-17) northeast of the railroad station were refilled there.	the spare parts depot had formerly been located in Gorkiy. large boxes at the Seliksa railroad station in August 1948. contained tank spare parts, bogie and drive wheels, tracks, and motors. The boxes were unpacked in a former PW camp.

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Syzran

1947 to
October
1948.

1. Large supply depot of several rows of low wooden warehouses with large open-air storage sites between them. The depot was fenced in by a palisade lined with barbed wire, along which arc lamps and watchtowers had been erected.

In the eastern sector of the city, just west of the barracks installation referred to as tank officer school.

There were large piles of motor vehicle tires of various sizes, each pile being 30 to 40 meters high. There were also large stores of fuel drums which, judging from the way they were handled, seemed to be filled. Large boxes, about 100x50x30 cm in size, were once observed to be unloaded at the warehouses. Guard duty was performed by soldiers wearing dark blue uniforms.

2. Ammunition depot which covered an area about 400 meters square. It consisted of numerous low wooden buildings surrounded by a double wire fence with watchtowers.

North of the main railroad station, near a large barracks installation.

Ammunition boxes were frequently observed being unloaded in front of the wooden warehouses.

3. Engineer equipment depot which covered an area about 500 meters square. It had wooden sheds scattered all over the area and large open-air storage sites; surrounded by a wire fence with watchtowers.

Just north of the freight yard, located in the northwestern sector of the city.

Pontoons, assault boats, pneumatic rafts, cranes, and timber were stored in the open.

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Kazan
(N55-45,
E49-08)
area.

May 1950.

1. Fuel depot with a
railroad spur.

Northeast of the
Derbyskiy railroad
station, on the
Kazan-Sverdlovsk
railroad line.

Numerous railroad tank
cars were standing on the
spur track which led into
a wooded area. Large
fuel containers were
scattered over the sparsely
wooded area about 300 meters
from the main railroad line.

2. Ammunition dump
with railroad spur.

20 to 25 km north-
east of Kazan, on
the northern side
of the Kazan-
Sverdlovsk rail-
road line.

Numerous large stores of
various types of ammunition
were seen over a wide area,
several hundred meters
north of the railroad
trunk line. Several bunker-
like constructions with
concrete tops were also
seen there.

Fall of
1946.

Ordnance depot, about
300x1000 meters in
size. It consisted
of six large wooden
warehouses, each
about 50 meters
long, and one three-
story brick build-
ing.

In the woods north-
east of the Derby-
skiy railroad sta-
tion on the rail-
road line to
Sverdlovsk.

New passenger cars, trucks,
artillery pieces, and
searchlights were seen in
the depot area. Guard
personnel wore blue-bordered
red epaulets with the number
K-254.

Comments:

2. The 258th Regt referred to here is an MVD regiment in Kazan

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